

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : James A. Laugharn, Jr. et al.      Art Unit : Unknown  
 Serial No. : To be assigned      Examiner : Unknown  
 Filed : July 9, 2001  
 Title : PRESSURE-CONTROLLED NUCLEIC ACID HYBRIDIZATION

Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- This application is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/035,652, filed March 5, 1998, which claimed the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/076,478, filed March 2, 1998, and of International Application No. PCT/US97/11198, filed July 1, 1997.

In the claims:

Cancel claims 1-16.

Add claims 17-23.

-- 17. A nucleic acid amplification method, comprising:

(1) providing a sample vessel and temperature and pressure controllers for the vessel;

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I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.10 that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit July 9, 2001

Signature *Peter Consoli*

Signature PETER CONSOLI

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